



INSCOM **Journal**

Spring 2006

A new military mindset

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illustration by Spc. James Felkins

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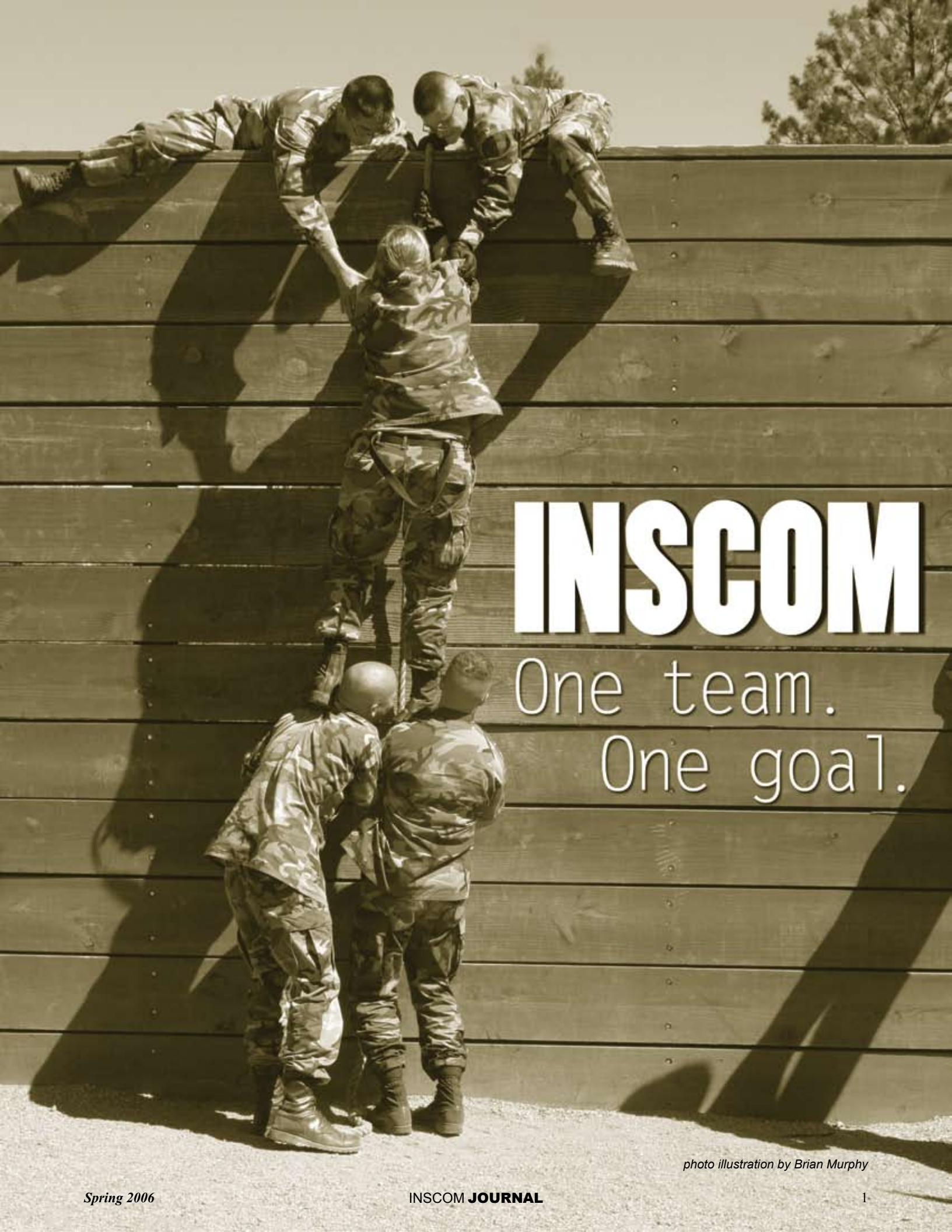
On the cover

The U.S. Army is serving a nation at war. According to Army Chief of Staff Gen. Peter Schoomaker, this war requires that all elements of our national power be applied in a broad, unyielding, and relentless campaign. This campaign will not be short; it will require a deep commitment. "Our Army is a proud member of the Joint Force expertly serving our nation and its citizens as we continuously strive toward new goals and improve performance," Schoomaker said.



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INSCOM

One team.
One goal.

photo illustration by Brian Murphy

From the commander's desk

By Maj. Gen. John DeFreitas, III
Commander, INSCOM

As a key partner in the joint team, the U.S. Army Intelligence and Security Command remains fully engaged around the globe in fulfilling our responsibilities to national security.

One of the most important aspects of the current security environment is our nation and Army at war -- a war unlike any we have experienced in our history. As the National Security Strategy clearly points out, "the enemy is not a single political regime or person or religion or ideology. The enemy is terrorism -- premeditated, politically motivated violence perpetrated against innocents." The war on terrorism is being conducted across the globe and throughout the full range of military operations against rogue states and terrorists committed to attack our principles and way of life. The war on terrorism is unlike any of our previous wars. As the global threats change, INSCOM will change to meet the challenge.

INSCOM, along with the Department of Defense and the intelligence community, continue to transform our capabilities and knowledge to meet a growing spectrum of threats. We must remain capable of deterring threats to our nation and national interest from traditional state actors. However, we must improve our ability to deter and defeat growing threats from religious extremist, narco-terrorist,



file photo

Maj. Gen. John FDeFreitas, III. and those operating in cyberspace. This task challenges us to handle threats along a continuum that features nuclear weapons on one end and low tech terror on the other end. INSCOM will retain the best of its current capabilities and attributes while developing skills needed to meet emerging challenges. We will continuously improve our ability to succeed in both the current and projected strategic and operational environments. To succeed, we depend on our outstanding Soldiers and civilians, both government and contractors, to respond to national and global threats.

As we continue the process of transforming while at war, we are redesigning our structure to provide modular, capabilities-based organizations, increasing their relevance and responsiveness to the combatant

commanders in the field. We lead the way in developing in our leaders and work force an unprecedented level of adaptability and expertise. We will ensure INSCOM has the ability to operate decisively in an uncertain environment, against non-traditional and often unpredictable threats.

Transforming intelligence doctrine, processes, education, and systems to ensure a joint and expeditionary mindset is the focus of INSCOM and the Army. As we transform the Army to succeed in the current and future security environment, we must remain agile in our thinking and problem solving. Our processes, policies, and training will adapt as required to guarantee success for our Army and nation. I thank all of you in INSCOM for your service and for helping ensure our success.

Working smarter, not harder

**By Command Sgt. Maj.
Maureen Johnson**

Headquarters, INSCOM

In order to be successful in the 21st century, the Army must continue to evolve and adapt to face the current challenges – particularly in Iraq and Afghanistan. As the battlefield changes, we must constantly re-evaluate how we do business.

We must have a mindset that embraces requirements for modular, capabilities-based Army and we must have what Army Chief of Staff Gen. Peter Schoomaker refers to as a joint and expeditionary mindset. The challenge, according to Gen. Schoomaker, is to maximize each service's capabilities and to prepare leaders and Soldiers to fight in uncertain and ambiguous environments.

This is especially true with the U.S. Army Intelligence and Security Command. Because we are a multi-disciplined command we must be able to work effectively and efficiently with a broad range of services and agencies. Because of limited resources, each service should not be duplicating the work of the other services. Instead of competing to accomplish the same missions, we must work side by side in the intelligence community. The old adage "work smarter, not harder" has never been truer.

As an intelligence community, we must work jointly to ensure what is being developed by one service or agency complements with what other

services are doing and that all the pieces fit together at the end of the day. Whether it's the equipment we use, or the information we collect, we must ensure that we are all on the same page and that the information we each collect can be freely shared from one intelligence agency to the next and more importantly down to the Warrior on the ground. Teamwork is vital for the success of our operations. Common sense tells us that a partnership with our fellow services and agencies will allow us to succeed in defending our country and fighting GWOT much more than if everyone is working as isolated members.

All of this fits with the spirit and the intent of the Director of National Intelligence, John Negroponte. Shortly after the Office of the Director of National Intelligence was formed, a document called the National Intelligence Strategy was released. This document sets forth the framework for a more unified, coordinated and effective intelligence community.

Within the document there were several mission objectives, such as defeating terrorists at home and abroad by disarming their operational capabilities, and seizing the initiative from them by promoting the growth of freedom and democracy. But just as importantly, the document also outlined several enterprise objectives that relate to our ability to transform faster than threats emerge, protect what needs to be protected, and

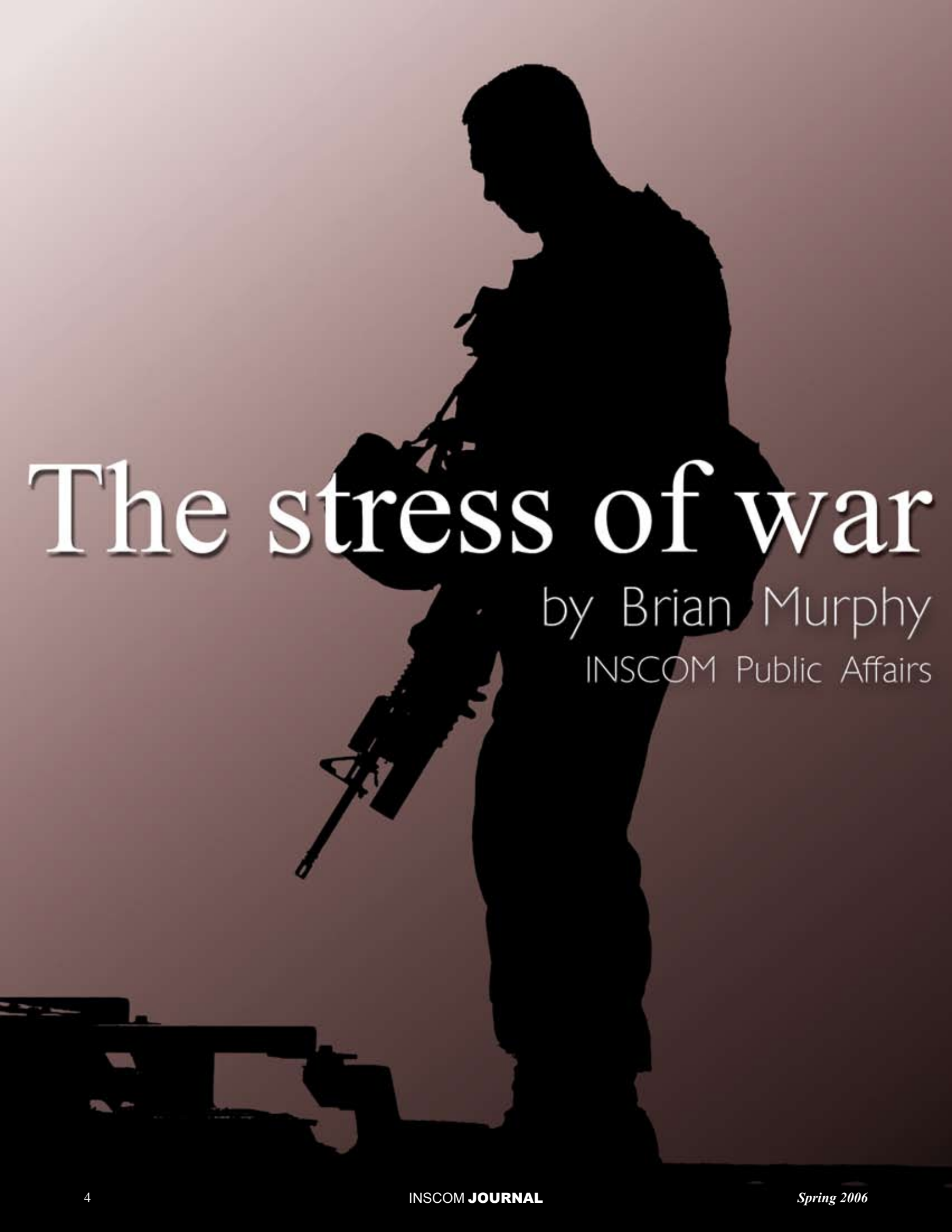


photo by Bob Bills

Command Sgt. Maj. Maureen Johnson. perform our duties according to the law.

Two objectives of note are to create clear, uniform security practices and rules that allow us to work together, protect our nation's secrets, and enable aggressive counterintelligence activities, and second, to ensure that intelligence community members and customers can access the intelligence they need when they need it. Each of these points sounds fairly basic, but with these objectives complete we stand a much better chance of accomplishing our missions and getting our Soldiers and civilians home safely.

With all that said there will still be service and organization uniqueness but that will complement the Joint environment mindset and not provide barriers. "One Team One Fight" if used with a Joint Mindset says it all.



The stress of war

by Brian Murphy
INSCOM Public Affairs



photo illustrations by Brian Murphy

The sights and sounds of war can cause Soldiers to suffer from post traumatic stress disorder.

In a world of 24-hour news coverage, it's a simple sentence that is only worthy of a few seconds of the viewer's attention as it scrolls across the bottom of the television screen.

Fifteen percent of the servicemembers who have returned from a deployment in Iraq have shown signs of post traumatic stress disorder, but less than four percent have sought treatment.

As soon as the words are gone the topic swiftly changes to talks of approval ratings or corrupt politicians and the world moves on. Or does it?

While the talking heads on the big news station may dedicate less than 30 seconds to this story, it is a topic that is very real and something Army leadership is focusing on.

Col. Elspeth Cameron

Ritchie, psychiatry consultant for the Army's surgeon general, is considered a subject-matter expert on PTSD. She has been in the Army for 20 years and has focused a majority of her time dealing with the disorder.

"It is not a new disorder," Ritchie said. "Post traumatic stress disorder is a cluster of symptoms that happen after a terrifying or horrible event. It was not recognized until long after the Vietnam War ended. But the first people who were diagnosed with PTSD were veterans from Vietnam.

"Combat can cause it, but so can other disasters, vehicle accidents, sexual assaults and a variety of other situations where people feel frightened or vulnerable. Ever since the events of Sept. 11, 2001 it's become more of a focus," she said.

Symptoms of PTSD can

include the following: nightmares, flashbacks, emotional detachment, insomnia, avoidance of reminders and extreme distress when exposed to the reminders, irritability, and excessive startle response.

Some post traumatic stress disorder sufferers turn to drugs and alcohol in an effort to drown out horrific memories of their traumatic experiences. If untreated, PTSD can lead to severe depression and even suicide.

Because there are no clear "front lines" in Iraq, almost all of the servicemembers deployed in support of the Global War on Terrorism return home with some form of mental scars.

"No matter what your job is or where you are, you're going to be affected by the deployment," said Sgt. 1st Class Walter Spears, senior retention opera-



photo illustration by Brian Murphy

“No matter what your job is or where you are, you’re going to be affected by the deployment,” Spears said.

tions noncommissioned officer, U.S. Army Intelligence and Security Command. “To what degree varies from person to person.”

Spears was called upon to leave his wife, Sun, and his son, Shawn, while as a member of the 1st Infantry Division’s 3rd Brigade Combat Team he deployed for a yearlong assignment to the Middle East in support of the Global War on Terrorism February 2004.

“The number one day-to-day challenge for me personally when we were deployed was the safety of my Soldiers,” Spears said. “Specifically making decisions that could affect their well being and potentially put them in harm’s way.”

Spears and his section were

responsible for the retention of all of the 3rd BCT Soldiers in theater, which meant they had to travel to numerous different locations throughout the Middle East.

“The Army still requires a paper trail, so when I would have to send a career counselor out from one of the forward operating bases to another that would put a Soldier in harm’s way,” he said. “There’s always the possibility of an ambush or an improvised explosive device. My concern was always making sure they made it back safely.

“Even if you were one of the lucky ones who didn’t have to go outside of the wire very often, you still had to deal with the possibility of incoming fire or a carbomb exploding at one of

the gates or bodies of the casualties that were brought in,” Spears said. “Those are all traumatic events that can affect a person.”

Soldiers can show symptoms of PTSD, but not necessarily have a functional impairment, Ritchie said. She gives an example of a Soldier returning from Iraq who begins to have nightmares.

“It is common for people to have nightmares, but that doesn’t mean that they have a mental disorder,” she said. “A lot of the symptoms of PTSD are normal reactions to abnormal situations.”

Those who don’t suffer from PTSD may still need to time to re-adjust once back home. After spending a year in the Middle East on “high alert”

with an M16A2 rifle by his side, Spears admits that there were times when he would be walking down the street and hear an engine backfire or a car accident and immediately think it was a carbomb or an improvised explosive device. Ritchie says this reaction, referred to as hypervigilance, is common for returning Soldiers.

The Army is focusing on providing help for the Soldiers who cannot adjust to life back home.

“Some Soldiers have a difficult time re-integrating in society,” Ritchie said. “This is common in the National Guard

and reserves, where people go back to a society that doesn’t necessarily understand what they’ve been through.”

When Soldiers return home they take part in a post deployment health assessment, which is used to seek out individuals who show symptoms of physical and/or emotional distress. Additionally, many units have begun implementing a post deployment health re-assessment 90 to 180 days later in hopes of identifying those who may have “slipped through the cracks” during the initial screening.

Continuing its proactive approach, Army leadership

increased the number of combat stress control teams deployed worldwide from 150 to 230. These teams are tasked with reaching out and educating Soldiers on PTSD and other related issues.

“The earlier you address stress, the better you can combat it,” Ritchie said. “Bottom line, if symptoms are persistent and interfere with your ability to do your job or with your family life, that’s the point when we say go get treatment.”

Because INSCOM Soldiers tend to deploy in smaller groups or as individuals, they are more susceptible to the disorder than other servicemembers who deploy as an entire brigade or division, according to Ritchie.

One of the best ways to help a Soldier cope through what can be a trying time is for squad leaders or battle buddies to simply ask “How’s it going?”

“Because we deployed in such a small group, we became a tight office,” Spears said. “We really got to know each other and were there for each other if one of us needed to talk. I didn’t look at it as any formal kind of counseling, it was more like a couple friends airing it out. I think that really helped all of us during our year over there.”

Soldiers can also turn to their chain of command or unit chaplains for support.

Those who would rather speak with someone outside of their unit can contact an emotional well-being consultant at 1-800-342-9647 or visit the Military One Source Web site at: <http://www.militaryonesource.com>.



photo illustration by Shawn Hussong

“I would estimate that 15 percent of Soldiers returning home from a deployment have symptoms of post traumatic stress disorder,” said Col. Elspeth Cameron Ritchie, psychiatry consultant for the Army’s surgeon general.

Can't hang'em up yet

by Brian Murphy
INSCOM Public Affairs

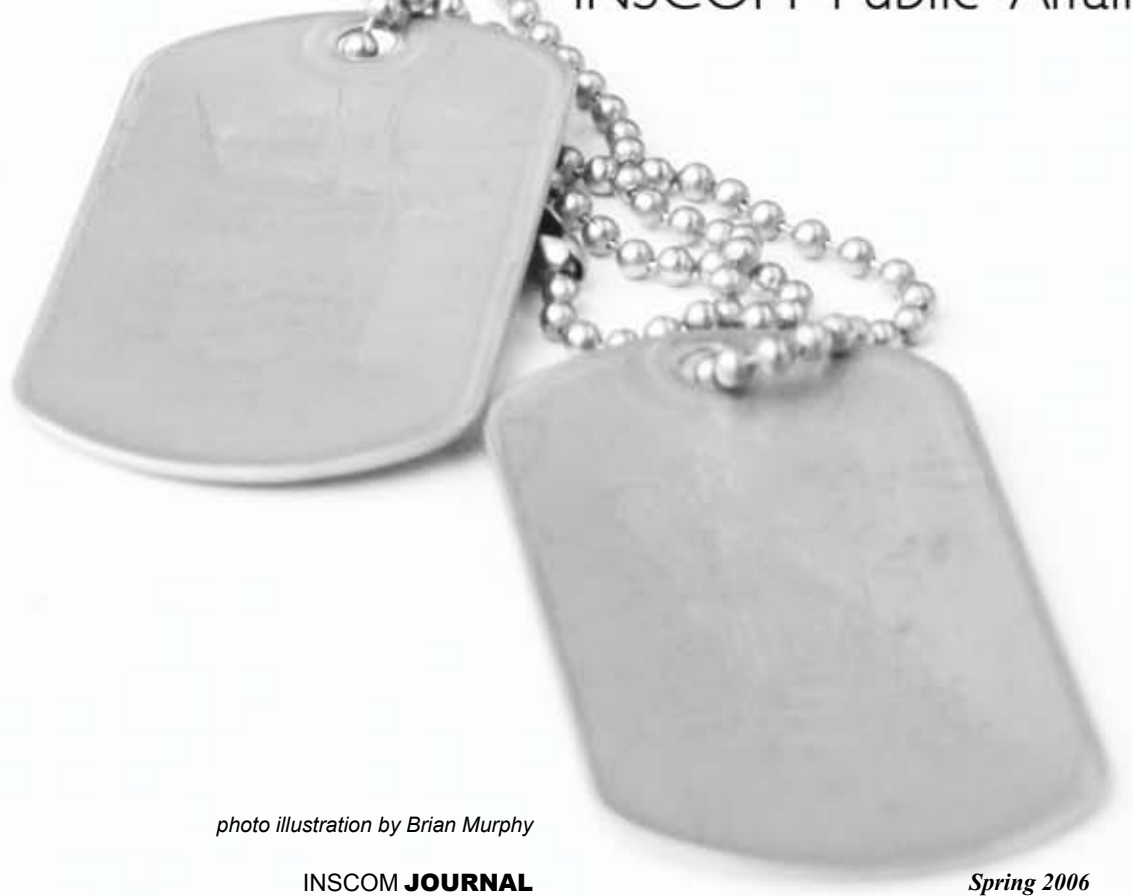


photo illustration by Brian Murphy

Jim Ramge enlisted in the Army in 1967 as a private, deployed to Vietnam a year later, and then separated after he returned home in 1969. A little more than a year later, Ramge enlisted again. This would be a sign of things to come.

Ramge served in the Army for more than 21 years, and then retired as a chief warrant officer 3 in 1990. This is not where the story ends though. After collecting retirement for more than 15 years, Ramge did the unthinkable and returned to active duty in 2005 at the age of 56.

While he had been busy working at a local university and enjoying life in Kentucky with his wife, Jan, Ramge admits his time in service was never far from his thoughts.

"I actually missed it very much and always regretted retiring in 1990 just before the deployments for the Gulf War," said the Kodiak Island, Alaska native. "I had submitted my paperwork the previous year, so I was locked into retiring in August '90. I had also taken a contractor position to teach Saudi Soldiers in Riyadh. During the war, I spent a lot of time in Riyadh seeing old friends that had deployed and realized just how much I missed the work, responsibilities, and being involved in something that was very meaningful."

So from time to time over the years, Ramge would find himself catching up with the military on the Internet.

"Late one afternoon, in the spring of 2004, I was surfing the



courtesy photo

Chief Warrant Officer 3 Jim Ramge made the unusual decision to return to active duty after being retired for 15 years.

web and decided to check out the Army's Web site," he said. "It was mainly out of curiosity, and something I had done over the years to keep up with an organization that had been pretty good to my family and me."

Ramge also had a son on active duty, so he was interested in keeping up with Army deployments and current events that could affect his family. That's when he stumbled across an article about a voluntary recall initiative for warrant officers. Although the recall focused primarily on warrant officers with aviation and command information backgrounds, Ramge sent out an e-mail message to the branch manager.

"I really didn't expect a response to come, but then again, it never will if it isn't sought," he said. "To my surprise, the following evening,

I was contacted at home. We discussed my assignments over the years, my education, what I had done in Saudi Arabia for five years and the manning situation in my field. Towards the end of the conversation, he indicated that there might be the possibility of a return and encouraged me to submit a packet for consideration."

Everything was falling into place. All Ramge needed now was the blessing of Jan and the rest of his family.

"I should have known better to have questioned the loyalty of my wife of 35 years, or the support of my sons," he said. Ramge was happy to find his family was as excited as he was about his possible return to active duty.

And with that, the submitting of the packet became a reality. The further the process



According to Ramge, the daily interaction with fellow Soldiers was one of the aspects of military service he missed most during his 15 years of retirement.

moved along, the more Ramge found himself focusing on his previous Army tenure.

“Seeing the pride the Soldiers of today display, the manner in which they conduct themselves and go about their duties can bring back an awful lot of memories,” he said. “One cannot spend over half their life doing something and not be affected. I simply wanted to be a part of that again.”

In May 2005, it became official – Ramge was back in uniform with the 513th Military Intelligence Brigade. Obviously, coming in with such a gap in his time in service, Ramge wasn’t sure what to expect this time

around.

“I anticipated the opportunity to deploy,” said Ramge, assistant brigade operations officer for the 513th MI Brigade. “But I found out that the purpose for allowing us retirees back in is to fill the void left by the active force when they deploy.”

Ramge said he would gladly deploy if called upon, but he is happy to help in whatever way possible.

“A retiree brings more to the table than just his job knowledge, skills and abilities,” he said. “One does not work for 20 years and not learn how to teach, lead, or manage people. Our force is young, particularly

our warrant force. There is a lot that can be passed on to these fine Soldiers, in addition to performing the usual day-to-day tasks and responsibilities.”

The Army officially considered Ramge on temporary duty status – meaning he was not authorized dependent relocation, so Jan could not accompany him to Fort Gordon, Ga. But just because Ramge arrived to the unit solo, didn’t mean he would spend the year by himself. Ramge knew he had his supportive family in his corner, but he quickly found out that members of the 513th MI Brigade were also happy to work with the veteran Soldier.

“He’s an extremely hard worker and has been a great role model for the younger Soldiers in the unit,” said Lt. Col. Kirk Randolph, deputy commander, 513th MI Brigade. “Here’s a guy who volunteered to leave retirement to come back and help out the Army during the war effort. I think it’s refreshing.”

Ramge isn’t necessarily trying to be anyone’s role model – he’s just enjoying every day with the Army as if it is his last.

“As people say sometimes, you never value what you have until it’s gone,” Ramge said. “During the unit’s organization day last summer I realized how right I was in my feelings.

Though my wife was unable to make it down, I was able to see how much I did miss it. Watching the kids play games, the wives spending time with their husbands, and the competition amongst the units was enough to validate my return.

“Although I don’t consider myself a patriot in the sense that Hollywood attempts to portray, I have a deep love for my country and the military in general,” he said. “The Army was pretty good to a wayward young man and offered me an opportunity to make something out of myself many years ago.”

Ramge has enjoyed his time at the 513th MI Brigade so

much that he has put in for an extension. If approved, he would like to stay on board for another year or two. If not, he’ll simply “re-retire” and head back to Kentucky to be with Jan. Either way, he’ll be happy to do what he can to help the Army.

“I have an expression I use that I picked up back in the advanced course in 1983, ‘Proud to be here and glad to serve.’ It sounds trite to some, but it isn’t a bad way to live one’s life,” Ramge said. “I feel fortunate to have had the opportunity to return.”

(Editor’s Note: 1st Lt. Christine Moore also contributed to this article).



courtesy photos

Chief Warrant Officer 3 Jim Ramge has enjoyed his time back in the service so much, that he put in for an extension to remain with the 513th Military Intelligence Brigade.

Your momma
wears

COMBAT
BOOTS

by Tina Miles
902nd MI Group



photo illustration by Brian Murphy



Sgt. 1st Class Charlotte J. Montavon, operations sergeant major, 902nd Military Intelligence Group, spends some quality time with her 12-year-old son Luke.

Your momma wears combat boots.

What was once viewed a playground insult should now be considered a compliment. That's because in today's Army a number of Soldiers are mothers who, in fact, do wear combat boots.

Single parenting can be challenging, and being a single parent in the military doesn't make life any easier. "It has its pros and cons," said Sgt. 1st Class Charlotte J. Montavon, a single mother with a 12-year-old son, Luke.

"One of the pros of being a single parent in the military includes installation child care, in which you receive top priority for placement of dependents," said Montavon, operations sergeant major, 902nd Military Intelligence Group. "This is a

big plus for many single parents who don't have local family members to help with child care and helps alleviate the anguish of trying to find outside support. Because installation child care is limited to certain duty hours, parents often run into difficulty when forced to work overtime, shift work or the traveling that comes with military duties."

With the long duty hours and/or travels away from home, comes guilt, Montavon said.

"I try to make-up for my time away by spending as much quality time as possible with Luke," she said. "I make sure I am involved or knowledgeable with everything he does. I am also very diligent about making sure he knows how to contact me when we are apart."

Montavon noted that single parents tend to bond with

each other, offering each other support and assistance with child care and other issues, such as transportation. Single parents are usually the sole source for providing transportation for their children involved with sports or other activities that often take place during regular duty hours. Because of issues such as these, having a supportive chain of command is extremely important. Montavon admits she's been very fortunate in this regard, especially since Luke suffers from asthma, resulting in a number of medical appointments that occur without advance warning.

"Even while faced with challenges of being a single parent, she does an outstanding job of accomplishing the military mission as well as caring for her family," said Maj. Kevin



photos by Tina Miles

To be successful in the military, single parents must balance professional and parental responsibilities. Here Montavon helps her 12-year-old son, Luke, with his homework.

Wilkinson, plans and operations officer, 902nd MI Group. He added that Montavon has the outstanding ability to balance parental and professional responsibilities and is a superb example for others to emulate.

Another obstacle single parents face is limited potential for assignments. The parent has to weigh the cost and benefits of each new assignment. Montavon was offered what she considered to be a coveted position – drill sergeant duty, a position almost guaranteeing promotion, but had to decline because of the required amount of time away from home. She put family first and her career second.

When relocating to a new assignment, it is mandatory for the single parent to identify a short-term guardian in compli-

ance with the Army's Family Care Plan. According to Army Regulation 600-20, chapter 5, single parents must make arrangements for the care of their dependent family member(s) in the event they are "not available to provide the proper care due to absence for military service or emergency which would require me to be away for an extended period of time."

This is not always easy, especially for personnel who do not have family within close proximity. Montavon was fortunate enough to have a co-worker, who was also a close and trusted friend, willing to accept the responsibility of legal authority to care for Luke.

Also in accordance with the regulation, appropriate arrangements must be made to cover

the expenses of the guardian via post dated checks. Special documents pertaining to Luke, such as an identification card, medical records, school records, as well as special instructions on medical prescriptions, allergies, or other pertinent must be accessible at all times in case guardianship occurs. Guardians are given sufficient legal authority, copies of certificates of acceptance, and ID cards, allowing them to access military facilities and services in the child's behalf.

Years ago a stigma was often attached to a single parent, and it was assumed that the person would be a problem because of their domestic situation. But thanks to Soldiers such as Montavon, that stigma has become less common.

Here to stay

by Staff Sgt. Christina M. O'Connell
704th MI Brigade

courtesy photo



Every year hundreds of new Soldiers break in their first pair of combat boots, shape their first berets and get their first real sense of the military family. Even more Soldiers reenlist every year for their second, third or fourth time around.

What is it that makes so many Soldiers, both young and old, want to raise their hand and swear their allegiance? Could it be the opportunities for excitement and traveling? The honor of serving their country? Or could it be the successful examples of Soldiers who balance family life, military life and professional accomplishments that aspire so many to follow in their footsteps? Soldiers like the U.S. Army Intelligence and Security Command's Career Counselor of the Year, Sgt. 1st Class Richard C. DePontee?

DePontee, a career counselor with the 743rd Military Intelligence Battalion, 704th MI Brigade, was once a young new Soldier himself, lacing his combat boots for the first time and dreaming of doing his part and serving his country.

"I wanted to be a part of something big," said DePontee of his decision to enlist in the Army as an infantryman in 1994 and leave his home of Medford, Ore. for the military lifestyle.

DePontee, 32, initially planned on serving out his four years and returning to roofing houses, but realized after talking to a friend at the opening of his reenlistment window that he was just as much the Army as the Army was him.

"It was then that I decided

that I would stay in the Army until they tell me 'Sergeant Major DePontee, it's time for you to pack your things,'" recalled DePontee.

No one knows how far DePontee may have gone in the civilian workforce, but his military career speaks for itself. Among his list of honor graduate and commandant's list titles for various military schools, is his largest accomplishment to date: the 2005 INSCOM Career Counselor of the Year.

"It was a big accomplishment, and one that I'm proud of," said DePontee, who attended the Career Counselor Course at Fort Jackson, S.C. in 2000.

Although he admits keeping up with the high volume of paperwork required for his job is sometimes difficult, DePontee says he honestly can't think of anything he doesn't enjoy about being a career counselor, which may explain the success of his retention program.

"Help Soldiers with any questions or concerns they may have concerning attrition and retention, and everything in between," said DePontee. "If you live by that, you run a much better chance of achieving or exceeding your retention goals."

DePontee also gives credit where it's due and says he's grateful for the active involvement of the 743rd MI Battalion chain of command, noncommissioned officer support channel, appropriate branch managers, and above all, Lt. Col. David Tohn, the battalion commander.

"He instills the importance of retaining Soldiers to all under

"I decided that I would stay in the Army until they tell me 'Sergeant Major DePontee, it's time for you to pack your things,'"

Sgt. 1st Class
Richard C. DePontee
career counselor
704th MI Brigade

his command, especially while we are an Army at war," said DePontee.

In his 12 years in the Army, DePontee has enjoyed a well-rounded military career that includes assignments to Fort Drum, Fort Lewis, Korea, Fort Gordon, his current assignment at Buckley Air Force Base, as well as two tours to Iraq and deployments to Panama and Thailand.

Each of DePontee's assignments had an aspect that he enjoyed, such as the high-speed tactical training of Fort Drum and working with such supportive individuals at the 743rd MI Battalion, but he feels his second deployment to Iraq was probably his best assignment.

"To see the changes and improvements made within Iraq were phenomenal," said DePontee. "And to be a part of that would probably rate high on my favorites list, other than being away from my family of course."

With the strong support DePontee receives at work, he feels he's a lucky man to have the same support from his wife Dana and his seven children: Nikolai, 16; Chris-



photo by Bob Bills

Command Sgt. Maj. Maureen Johnson presents DePontee with an Army Commendation Medal, Nov 9.

tyne, 13; Connor, 11; Keenan, 9; Courtney, 5; Katelyn, 4, and Erica, 21 months.

“The kids have had a tough time dealing with all the recent deployments and my being away a lot, but for the most part I feel they are proud their dad is serving in the military,” said DePontee. “Dana has always showed a tremendous amount of support for me, as well as all military service members. I hope she understands that I am just as proud of her as a military spouse.”

DePontee’s wife, Dana, stands behind her husband’s deployments, even when it takes him far from their family.

“Deployments are very

hard, especially when there are children involved, but I think they have been worth our time apart,” said Dana. “Every Soldier has helped with Iraq in some way, shape or form, and I am proud to know that he has helped directly with some of them.”

DePontee says his family is his constant motivation and feels it is important for Soldiers who are married or have children to “find cohabitation between being a Soldier and a spouse or parent, because the two can coexist.” DePontee himself may be proof of his own words.

“He [DePontee] is a caring, giving and wonderful person,” said Dana. “No matter what he

does, he always puts his heart and soul into everything. I feel the best thing going for him is his belief that Soldiers aren’t just Soldiers, they are people and he cares for every one of them.”

The 2005 INSCOM Career Counselor of the Year has laced up over a dozen pair of new boots in his career so far, and he is far from regretting putting on that first pair.

“I love the Army just as much now as I did when I first entered in 1994,” said DePontee. “The Army and all the Soldiers whom I have had the pleasure to serve with are my family. They all make me proud to call myself a Soldier.”

S **e** **C** **R** **e** **T**
A **g** **E** **n** **T**
M **a** **n**

by Tina Miles
902nd MI Group



photo by Tina Miles

A 902nd Military Intelligence Group agent speaks with a newcomer to the unit during a walk-in.

Think of the Covering Agents Program kind of like the Men in Black. While people may not know a lot about who they are, or what they do, the agents involved play a vital role in keeping the country safe.

Whether providing force protection information to a supported military commander or providing technology protection support to a Defense Department contractor, the purpose is the same: to protect our fighting force, both current and future.

These are just a few of the responsibilities of the 902nd Military Intelligence Group field agents under the Covering Agent Program.

Part of the mission of the field agent is to frequently

visit all organizations on the installation they cover to give “Subversion and Espionage Directed against the U.S. Army,” or SAEDA, briefings, as well as newcomer briefings. It is their job to ensure all personnel on an installation are familiar with the counterintelligence agents and where they should go to report any suspicious incidents or activities. It is through these briefings that the field agents solicit walk-in reports.

The Covering Agent Program is not new, it’s just that more people are starting to realize their importance.

“It’s always been our mission, but when we are involved in worldwide support it becomes more significant,” said Dottie Daly, Analysis and

Collection Element coordinator, 308th Military Intelligence Battalion, 902nd MI Group. “Working with other agencies is one of our main responsibilities and should never leave the forefront.”

The program comes directly from an Army regulation that states the counterintelligence covering agent is the technique of assigning a primary supporting agent to a command or agency. It allows the agent to conduct all routine liaison and advice and assistance with the supported element and ensures detailed familiarity with their operations, personnel, security and vulnerabilities. It further provides the customer with a designated point of contact for filing reports regarding matters

of actual or potential counterintelligence interest.

“The covering agent program and the liaison program are about building relationships and sharing our capabilities with our sister agencies and our means of providing support to those elements, whether they wear a military uniform or a casual business shirt with a government contractor’s logo,” said Brad Dorris, intelligence specialist, 902nd MI Group.

Having been a field agent, Dorris knows all too well the importance of liaison.

“It is through the covering agent program that we are able to support not only the current warfighter, but also the

future warfighter. We do this by providing support Army technologies from the ‘cradle to grave,’” he said.

An example of the program in action is when 902nd MI Group agents provide briefings to inform Defense Department contractors of current threats to their facilities and programs. The agent tries to ensure the contractors understand the importance of the work they do and how it affects our nation.

“It is through that support and the relationships developed that we ensure our supported elements understand what poses a threat to our nation’s interest and feel that they are an instrumental part in protecting it by

reporting it through the proper channels,” said Dorris. “It should be the agent’s daily duty and implementing a one-on-one liaison with the same personnel makes it more comfortable.”

According to Daly, working in conjunction with other services agencies is also the field agent’s responsibility.

“Liaison with our sister services to improve cooperation between the services is extremely important,” Daly said.

So while those involved with the Covering Agents Program might not be in the headlines, they continue to play an integral part behind the scenes – just like they like it.



photo by Tina Miles

A 902nd Military Intelligence Group agent identifies himself to a walk-in Soldier at Fort Meade, Md.

Fallen Soldier honored

Steve Brady
Special to 513th MI Brigade

A U.S. Army Intelligence and Security Command Soldier will be forever remembered after having a building named in her honor.

The 202nd Military Intelligence Battalion, 513th MI Brigade, dedicated its headquarters building as Gasiewicz Hall in honor of Sgt. Cari Ann Gasiewicz, a linguist killed Dec. 4, 2004. She was the first Soldier from Fort Gordon, Ga., killed during Operation Iraqi Freedom.

"I think she would be humbled that we were doing something like this for her. She definitely wasn't the kind of Soldier to draw attention to herself," said Chief Warrant Officer 2 Chris Thomas, operations officer, Company B, 202nd MI Battalion.

Gasiewicz, 28, died in Ba'Qubah, Iraq, when the convoy she was traveling in was attacked; she was the only one killed.

Naming a building in her honor might have overwhelmed the unassuming sergeant.

"If she could see this, it would show her just how much she was loved and appreciated in the battalion," Thomas said.

Soldiers, civilians and family members gathered for the ceremony to celebrate her life.

"If Cari were here right now she'd be the first one to tell you to stop counting the miles and



courtesy photo

Kathleen and Paul Gasiewicz stand in front of Gasiewicz Hall, the 202nd MI Battalion's headquarters building that was named in their daughter's honor.

instead climb more mountains, eat more ice cream, watch more sunsets, and laugh more and cry less," Thomas said.

"Today's a good day," added Lt. Col. Garrett Howard, commander, 202nd MI Battalion. "Today's a day of honoring a great American.

"(Gasiewicz) epitomized that which we wish to become," he said. "She reflected the Soldier's Creed -- a true professional dedicated to mission accomplishment and service to her country. Cari was an individual imbued with the Warrior Ethos and an unwavering dedication to excellence."

Naming the building Gasiewicz Hall was a fitting tribute, Howard said.

"Within these walls Soldiers and civilians ascribe to live up to Sgt. Gasiewicz's standard by accomplishing the

mission and taking care of the Soldiers, civilians and family of this battalion, the 513th MI Brigade and the greater Fort Gordon Army community.

"Yet Cari's legacy is not the steel, brick and mortar structure that stands behind me. It is far more valuable than that. Her legacy is represented around you," Howard said. "It is in the hearts of the Soldiers and civilians that serve in this battalion both today and in the future."

Thomas, who was Gasiewicz's last supervisor, said she was a selfless Soldier.

"I know it sounds cliché, but that's probably the best way to describe her. She was first to volunteer for a mission, you never had to tell her to do something twice -- she was awesome.

Gasiewicz, a New York native, served more than seven years.

Payback

by Paul Cucuzzella
Army News Service

Soldiers may now file claims and receive reimbursement for protective equipment privately purchased between Sept. 11, 2001, and July 31, 2004.

A provision of the 2005 Defense Authorization Act allows for the reimbursement if service members weren't issued equivalent equipment prior to deployment in Operations Noble Eagle, Enduring Freedom or Iraqi Freedom.

No shortage now

There is no need anymore for Soldiers to purchase protective equipment on their own, said Col. Thomas W. Spoehr, director of Materiel for the Army's G8.

"There are no shortages; in fact there is excess in the theater to accommodate lost, damaged or otherwise missing body armor," Spoehr said. "All who need the armor have it, and secondly, Army body armor is the best military body armor in the world. Anything you could procure commercially would not be as capable."

The Army began reimbursing Soldiers Nov. 21 up to \$1,100 for any single item

such as protective body armor, combat helmets, ballistic eye protection, hydration systems, summer weight gloves, and knee and elbow pads.

A Soldier may be reimbursed for the purchase of a complete outer tactical vest, or for the separately-purchased components of an OTV, to include Small Arms Protective Insert plates, according to the U.S. Army Claims Service.

Soldiers can also be paid for these items if the items were purchased for them by someone else, such as family members.

File DD Form 2902

Current active-duty or reserve-component Soldiers who seek reimbursement should complete and file a DD Form 2902 with the first field grade commander in their current chain of command.

Soldiers must provide proof of deployment (such as deployment orders or a DD Form 214 noting deployment) and copies of all receipts or other proof of purchase for the items claimed,

and turn in all reimbursable items to their unit at the time the claim is filed.

If a Soldier is not in possession of some or all of the items, he should submit a written statement explaining why the items are not available, officials said.

Former Soldiers and survivors of deceased Soldiers should complete DD Form 2902 and mail it directly to the U.S. Army Claims Service at the address provided in block 12 of the form.

Forms must be accompanied by copies of proof of deployment and proof of purchase, and the items for which reimbursement is sought. Shipping costs for delivering items to the Claims Service are compensable and can be noted on the DD Form 2902.

Forms available on Web

Claimants can download a printable DD Form 2902 at www.jagcnet.army.mil under "Client Services and Links," or call (301) 677-7009 ext. 431 for additional information. All claims must be filed by Oct 3.



photo by Staff Sgt. Aaron Allmon

SHOTS FROM THE FIELD

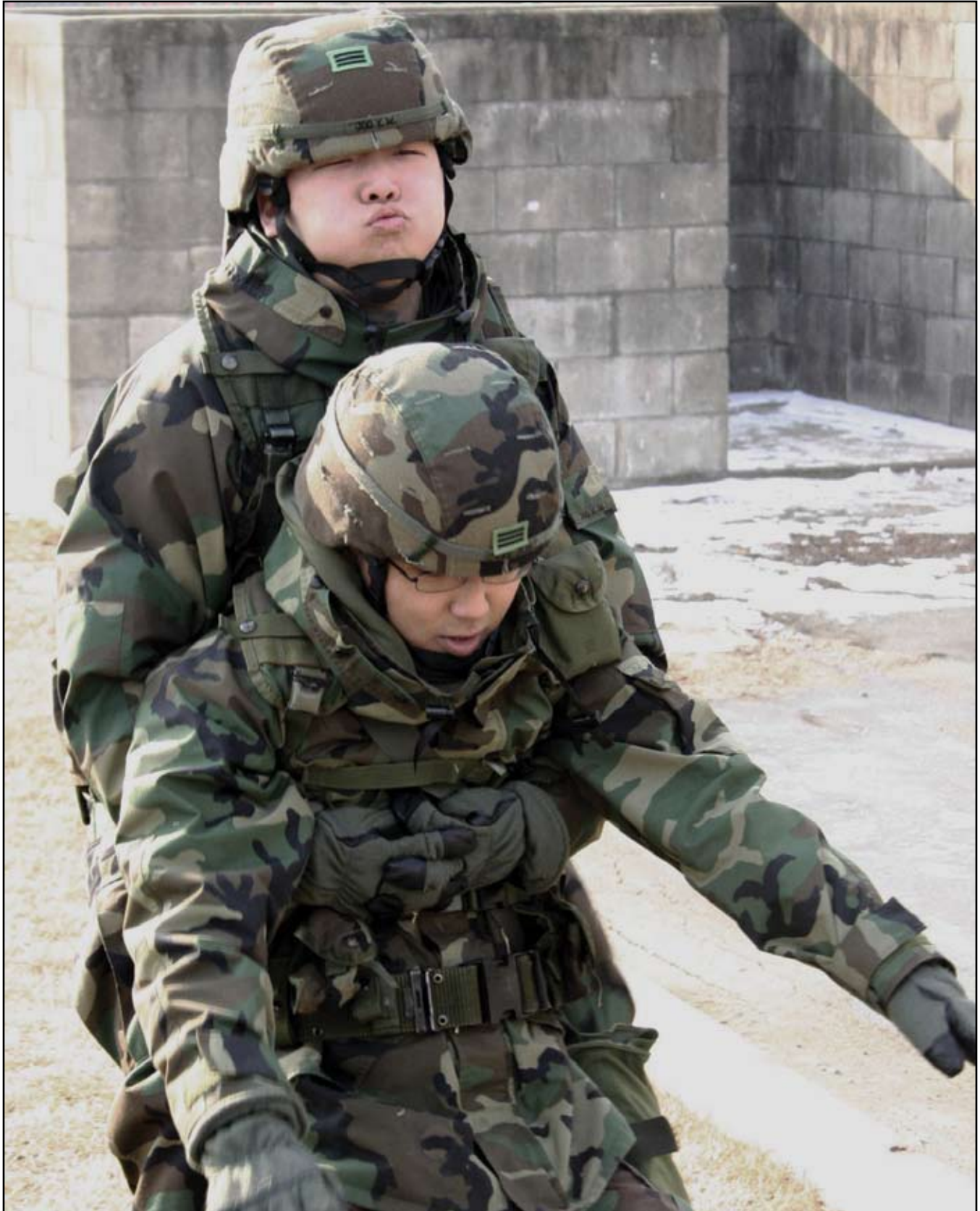


photo by Sgt. Carlos Norat

Cpl. Yung Woo Joo raises Cpl. Joon Hee Lee to a standing position in order to perform a fireman's carry during 501st MI Brigade sergeant's time training event in Yongsan, Republic of Korea.

SHOTS FROM THE FIELD



photo by Susan Barkley

Pfc. Lee Seung-mok prepares to roll a ball during gas mask bowling at the Strike Zone Bowling Center. Soldiers of Company B, 532nd Military Intelligence Battalion, at Camp Humphreys, Korea bowled for about two hours as part of their nuclear, biological and chemical training, and as a way to build unit camaraderie.



courtesy photo

National Ground Intelligence Center Soldiers look for intelligence information at the scene of a carbomb in Iraq.

SHOTS FROM THE FIELD



courtesy photo

Jermaine Williams, a defensive end from Mary Vale, Ariz., sprints during practice before the U.S. Army All-American Bowl high school all-star game. The East team won the game 27-16 at the Alamodome in San Antonio, Jan. 7.



courtesy photo

513th MI Brigade Soldiers and family members play on the swings during the unit's family readiness group party.

SHOTS FROM THE FIELD



photo by Sgt. Carlos Norat

Spc. Laura Gabriel heads her team (composed of Sgt. Hyechin A. Kang, Pfc. Marshall A. Henderson and KATUSA Sgt. Lee, Seung Ho) as they attack and clear a defended building. This was part of HHC, 501st Military Intelligence Brigade MOUT (Military Operations on Urbanized Terrain) conducted in Yongsan, Republic of Korea.

INSCOM's Vision

The Army's operational intelligence force - engaged worldwide as part of the joint/interagency team; conducting multi-discipline collection, fusion and analysis to generate actionable intelligence in support of the Global War on Terrorism and regional contingency operation.

A network of horizontally integrated fusion centers which leverage shared national databases. Persistent intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance, tactical reporting and advanced analytical tools.

Joint, interoperable counterintelligence/human intelligence, signals intelligence, and measures and signatures intelligence modules capable of rapid deployment/employment - with linkage to the fusion center network.

Tactically useful, rapid prototype initiatives developed, vetted and fielded in partnership with the intelligence community, industry and academia.

Tough, joint-savvy intelligence leaders at every level.